



AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 7, please replace the second full paragraph starting at line 6 with the following paragraph:

According to the disclosed embodiment, the prescribed (N) group of consecutive symbols 112 (i.e., 112₁ through 112_N) are stored in the buffer [[112]] 102 and divided into two first and second subgroups 118a and 118b, where each subgroup 118a and 118b has the same number of symbols N/2. In addition, each symbol has a corresponding subgroup position within its subgroup: in the case of subgroup 118a, the symbol 112₁ (Sym1) is at position “1”, the symbol 112₂ (Sym2) is at position “2”, and the symbol 112_{N/2} (SymN/2) is at position “N/2”; in the case of subgroup 118b, the symbol 112_{N/2+1} (SymN/2+1) is at position “1”, the symbol 112_{N/2+2} (SymN/2+2) is at position “2”, and the symbol 112_{N/2} (SymN/2) is at position “N/2”. Hence, both symbols 112₁ and 112_{N/2+1} have the same corresponding subgroup position of “1”, the symbols 112₂ and 112_{N/2+2} have the same corresponding subgroup position of “2”, etc., ending with the symbols 112_{N/2} and 112_N sharing the last corresponding subgroup position of “N/2”.